



# Cambridge and District Riding Club

## Articles of special interest:

- Lincoln reports
- AGM
- Milton dressage
- DTM report
- BRC/BE80 report
- November social
- Winter Area 7 dressage

## Ramblings from the chair...

Our next event is the AGM on Friday November 11<sup>th</sup> at Rampton Village Hall. This is always a good chance to catch up with other members, and to see what is in the pipeline for next year. There is a lot going on this year, see below, so I hope to see lots of you there.

Following rapidly on its heels is the Grand Entertainment Evening on 19<sup>th</sup> November. I am sure this will be great fun, so do bring along your friends, no need to be members, or horsey. More details towards the end of the newsletter. Tickets will be on sale at the AGM. Please support social events as one of the riding club main fund raisers. If you don't come we won't raise any money!

Congratulations go to the Endurance Team Cambridge Royals who won the novice championship class. Come to the AGM to hear all about it!

Since the last newsletter, we have also sent competitors to Lincoln to the RC championships, to Aintree for the Dressage to Music Finals, and to Alconbury for the unofficial Team Hunter Trials. Our Blenheim Team came a great 3<sup>rd</sup>; look out for an article on the C&DRC Team in Absolute Horse magazine.

Dates for 2012 area qualifiers are currently under discussion. More details will be available in the next newsletter.

*Karen*

## Lincoln BRC Championships – Seniors

*By Judi Shaw*

Cambridge & District RC were rather short of senior competitors jumping at the British Riding Clubs National Championships at Lincoln on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2012. We had Kerry Simson competing as an individual in both the Novice SJ and also the Style SJ. Rosey Groombridge was also an individual in the Open SJ class.

Although the horses jumped well, we seemed to have a weekend of knocking a pole down in each round and therefore couldn't get among the rosettes. We all enjoyed ourselves on the Saturday, Rosey and mum Mary returned home that evening, Kerry was kindly loaning Toby for Alice to ride in the junior Style SJ on the Sunday so stayed on another night. Nicola and I then went to stay in Lincoln so that we could return to watch the juniors the next day, and very exciting it was too!!!!

Well done to Kerry and Rosey for making it to the Nationals and better luck next year!

Novice SJ    Kerry Simson riding I Should Coco  
Open SJ     Rosey Groombridge riding Winchester  
Style SJ     Kerry Simson riding Hokey Pokey.

## Lincoln BRC Championships – Juniors

*By Sharron Dyke*

Cambridge had two junior teams and two individual riders representing the club at the recent BRC National Championships.

The junior style team consisted of:

Tara McCabe riding Itinerary  
Emma Butler riding Ben  
Rachel Dyke riding Sunny Destination  
Alice Ellison riding Hokey Pokey

Hokey Pokey had very kindly been lent to Alice by Kerry Simson, who had been competing in the senior championships the previous day.

The ground in the style ring was quite hard, and grass cover was not good, which made for quite a slippery surface. Our team all rode well and managed to get a 6<sup>th</sup> place.

Emma Butler on Ben was representing the club as an individual rider in the Junior Novice Championships. Ben being the reliable pony that he is, jumped a beautiful double clear, and took Emma into the third round jump off. Everyone was delighted to hear that Emma had gone into the lead and she held on to that lead for quite a while before being pushed into 2<sup>nd</sup> place by the rider from the Hereford and District RC.

In the Open Show Jumping ring, we had a junior team consisting of:

- Lauren Howse on Hacker Jack (Jack)
- Alice Ellison on Britney IV
- Tara McCabe on Itinerary (Charlie)
- Rachel Dyke on Lightning 41 (Sally)

On paper we thought that we had a really strong team this year, and if ever we could win it, it was now! However, on the day, Sally who jumped a triple clear to win the qualifier and Jack who has had an amazingly successful year, both decided to role a pole this time. Alice produced a great double clear and Charlie also had a pole. We finished the class in 4<sup>th</sup> place which was still a very good result as this is always a very competitive class.

Rachel Dyke on Sunny Destination had qualified for the Junior Open as an individual rider, as she was the highest place rider at the qualifier who was not part of the winning team. Sunny had already jumped one clear round in the Style Jumping Championships, and proved to be as reliable as ever, when he produced another two clear rounds in the Junior Open.

Rachel and Alice were now both through to the third round jump off against the clock. Rachel was drawn 6<sup>th</sup> to go, and watched as the first 5 riders all took a fence down in their bid to win this class. When her turn came, Rachel decided just to 'go for it' as there was nothing to lose. She cut every corner possible in what was a very long galloping course, and as she galloped for the last parallel fence, she just took one check and cleared the fence in a very quick time. Alice went in soon after Rachel, and being the experienced show jumper that she is, she too rode an extremely quick jump off, and managed to leave all the fences up.

We then had a nail biting time waiting for the last few riders to go to see if Cambridge would be beaten. When the last rider jumped it became very clear that Rachel had finally won her first individual national championship (see

photo), and that Alice had got reserve champion. What an unbelievable result for Cambridge to get a first and two seconds in the show jumping!



Congratulations to Rachel, Alice, and Emma, they made me very proud.

A huge thanks goes to Judi and Nicola Shaw, who came all the way up to Lincoln for the whole weekend to support the seniors on the Saturday and to help Rachel with her 2 horses on the Sunday.

Thanks also to Liam Philips who worked tirelessly with the grooming, feeding, carrying tack, and mucking out, and to Gill Butler, Karen Howse, Lena McCabe and Sasha and Colin Ellison who all helped to make it such a fantastic weekend for Cambridge. My thanks also go to Kerry for the loan of her horse for Alice to ride in the Style Jumping.

It is with sadness that I have to thank Alice Ellison and Tara McCabe for their contribution to our teams over the last few years, and I wish them every success for next year when they will both become senior members. I will miss you both ☹

## Blenheim RC Eventer's challenge

*By Polly Taylor*

CDRC has entered a team for the last three years – and this time it all worked! It is an arena competition with show jumps and cross country fences in a fairly tight optimum time. The team was:

Polly Taylor on Secret Passion (Lyric)  
Kerry Simson on Hokey Pokey (Toby)  
Polly West on Wigwam Bam (Bam)  
Barry Meningen on News for You (Todd)

We had all been eventing this season, so it was a “no pressure fun day out” at a lovely venue. Everyone enjoyed it, everyone had one fence down, Lyric and Toby made the time, and the other two were very close – and we came third!



This led to mounted prize giving in the main arena with Blenheim house as the back drop. All horses behaved remarkably well and resisted the temptation to jump the CCI three star cross country fences already in place. Polly (West) dropped her rosette in the excitement and it was handed back to her by none other than Mark Todd!

Absolute Horse are writing this up for their November “Star Focus” page, so you can read about more about it.

Last but not least – many, many thanks to Mary Groombridge for organising it all, and to Mary and Sharon (McLeod) for fabulous support and cheering on. Not to mention Karin Newell who should have been part of the team but due to a mistimed lame horse came with us on foot.

## Aston le Walls RC Horse Trials Championships

*By Polly Taylor*

This was a great opportunity to take part in a real three day event (two day for the novice teams) – roads & tracks and steeplechase and all. Not to mention the nerve wracking trot up for the three day. Fantastic weather, ideal venue and a lot of fun had by all!

C&DRC qualified two senior teams this year so a good group of east Anglians gathered at Aston Le Walls in August – venue of many a BE Horse Trials.

The novice team was:

Coco Chambers riding Okavanga (Archie)  
Rebecca Thompson riding Steel Diamond  
Jo Lawrence riding Clever Trevor  
Eleanor Taylor riding Gulliver

Jo and Eleanor were actually co-opted from another qualifier team as two members of the winning team couldn't make the championships. Thanks Karen (Froud) again for getting us there! Sadly Rebecca Thompson couldn't make it due to ill timed back problem (she has since had surgery and is up and about again).

The open team was:

Kerry Simpson riding Hokey Pokey (aka Toby)  
Polly Taylor riding Secret Passion (aka Lyric)  
Sonia Hansen riding Lakeside Seaon (aka Ned),  
Sarah Shoemark riding Bold Venture

After Sonia's achievement as an individual in the open team last year Kerry & Polly vowed to make it this year in an open team – and we did! Sadly Sonia couldn't make it this time, as Ned had significant mouth problems (but he too has been out and about again) – so the open team was also down to three.

Dressage was as dressage is ... Gulliver excelled himself and was best in his section, the others were all a little jolly but no-one disgraced themselves. Roads and tracks and steeplechase were greatly enjoyed by everyone two and four legged – after lots of head scratching and arithmetic to get the timing right. Archie in particular thought it was wonderful as he hadn't evented for a few years – clearly glad to be at it again.

The novice XC course was up to height and lots to look at. Trevor had a particularly exciting time – meeting up with an enormous flock of ducks half way round. Well done Jo for keeping it all together and completing! Gulliver reckoned that the steeplechase was his bit for the day. He was extremely excited by it all, jumped the first two XC fences with great aplomb but hit the rather harder ground at fence three and uncharacteristically said he had had enough (front feet have been on borrowed jumping time for a while) – particularly frustrating as he had left all bar one pole up in the show jumping – a great achievement. Archie flew round and completed somewhere in the

middle of the placings. He and Trevor had a few poles between them, but since the team was down to three before it started, there was no team place.

The open XC course wasn't small (!) and had lots of questions. Kerry and Toby flew round clear and Polly & Lyric had one stop at the penultimate fence having had a fabulous round otherwise. Sarah and Bold Venture were sadly eliminated at the same penultimate fence (narrow upright before water) but had negotiated a lot of difficult personal firsts on the way. Toby & Lyric did their bit on the final day with two clear rounds show jumping and both ended up somewhere in the middle of the placings.

All in all a good time was had by all. Despite being three per team and some disappointing eliminations team spirit was good – and we are all up for improving on the record next year!

Many thanks must go to Mary Groombridge for being the perfect Chef D'equipe as ever. She organised all the paperwork and came with us to Aston to cheer us all on, and did a great job in the "D" box for us all.

## Milton Dressage

*By Nettie Smith*

Once again we have a series of approximately monthly dressage competitions organised at the College of West Anglia (often referred to as Milton Farm School). These are open to all, and schedule and entry forms are available to download from our website ([www.canddrc.org.uk](http://www.canddrc.org.uk)) or you can request a copy via email from [n.smith@canddrc.org.uk](mailto:n.smith@canddrc.org.uk). Hard copies have also been distributed to various local equestrian outlets and can be obtained from Nettie by request (SAE would be appreciated!).

Unfortunately there were too few entries for the October date for the competition to go ahead. Future dates are 27<sup>th</sup> November, 18<sup>th</sup> December, 26<sup>th</sup> February and 25<sup>th</sup> March. These competitions are intended to be friendly and informal, you certainly don't need to plait your horse or wear white breeches (although of course you may if you wish), and every effort is made to help and accommodate those new to dressage, novice riders, young horses, children, even people who wish to ride in unconventional tack. On one occasion we had somebody do her test in a headcollar as her horse had injured its mouth and could therefore not have a bit in for a while - and she got a good score too!

So if you ever wanted to have a go but were not sure of your welcome, enter Milton and be sure of a warm (well, as warm as the winter weather will allow) welcome whatever your level of experience or age/type of horse. If you have any special requests please just write them on your entry forms – eg. we can allow extra time for young horses to get used to the school before starting their test, or put people first/last/adjacent to a break for whatever reason (although clearly not everyone can go in first!).

## BE80 experience

*By Serena Allery*

This year I thought I'd try my horse Time To Shine III (Charlie) at BE competitions. Having had one stop XC at Milton Keynes BE90 at a log on top of the hill I entered Carlton's BE80 class. The best thing about doing a BE80 class is the free help you get whilst there. I went on the guided XC course walk with BE coach Nick Turner which gave me some very useful pointers. Charlie didn't do the greatest dressage test, however the judge seemed to think it was ok and gave us a score of 31. Nick Turner was helping competitors warm up for the show-jumping, and helped me to get Charlie moving with a bit more 'go' for a nice clear. Onto the XC and I had a few interesting jumps with Charlie, including the one-stride double of rails where he fitted two strides in, and the ditch which obviously had to be cleared at a height of well over 3foot in case there were any monsters in it! Unfortunately I didn't have enough speed so attained 8 time penalties XC, obviously needing a bit more of the aforementioned 'go'. Luckily Charlie's dressage was good enough to allow us to come 2<sup>nd</sup>, thus qualifying for the British Riding Clubs BE80 Championship, which was rather exciting.

The BRCBE80 championship was held at Brooksby Melton College. This time I didn't go on the guided course walk as it was too far away to drive up for it the day before, and the one on the day clashed with my times. We underestimated the time it would take to drive there, so arrived a half hour late. I speed-walked the XC course in 40minutes to catch myself back up, whilst mum cleaned up (yet again) my never-quite grey horse who can always reverse my bathing efforts! There was a BE coach present to assist everyone with their dressage warm-up. She assessed Charlie as going straight with a good outline and free of tension, but big (part Irish Draught) and built slightly down-hill causing him to 'lumber' along a little on the forehand. She aided me to complete some leg-yield in both walk, (more successful), and trot, (not quite as successful), which helped his back legs come further underneath him for more 'lift' at the front. The result was a rather pleasing dressage score of 29.

A different BE coach was helping at the show-jumping and she advised me to keep the canter rhythm nice and even as Charlie will jump off a variety of strides, or chip a stride in if he thinks he needs to. I managed a nice round until the final two jumps, where we had a very long stride to the spread, then chipped in a short one before the final upright, just to keep mum's nerves on edge. Having had those 8 time faults XC at Carlton dropping us off 1<sup>st</sup> place, and also 10.8 time faults XC at my second attempt at BE90 at Milton Keynes dropping us from 1<sup>st</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> place, I was determined not to drop places at the championships. A speedier round (with an extra stride chipped in at a double again) saw us come in 2 seconds under the time, allowing us to stay on our dressage score and attain 3<sup>rd</sup> place. I really enjoyed myself and was extremely pleased with his performance. I hope to go again to the championships next year, and I'm also planning on aiming for the 2013 BE90 championships.

I would highly recommend BE80 classes to anyone considering BE next year and the guided course walks are definitely worth attending. You will need your own number-bib and medical armband. Horses also need to have their injections up to date in their passport.

Best of luck for your competing,  
Serena Allery & Charlie

## Dressage to Music RC Championships at Aintree

*By Eleanor Taylor*

Having been national champions in 2009, Jo (Lawrence) and I thought we should have another go at the pairs dressage to music with Jo's home bred Clever Trevor and my Gulliver. With the help of Stevie Wonder's Superstition, Bill Haley's Rock Around the Clock and Ray Charles' What I'd Say, we beat the (only) opposition at Fenning Farm to qualify for the championships at Aintree. Even though Liverpool is a LONG way from Cambridge we thought it was worth the effort. A further incentive to go was added when Gulliver and I qualified for the individual novice (with points).



I made things a little tricky by moving Manchester 3 weeks before the competition. So thanks to my wonderful mum (Polly) and Jo, who did the final run through with Trev and Gully (as well as doing a fantastic job clipping and trimming to make Gully look less like a woolly mammoth) and drove ALL the way (5 hours) up to Aintree where I met them at the gates. Conveniently, Manchester is only an hour and a half away from Aintree by train.

It was a fantastic venue and all of us were quite over-excited about it, especially when a Chinese couple asked for our picture as we hacked the horses round the race course! Both boys were obviously enjoying the atmosphere, not least because the last time they were on a racecourse together was when they were horse catching at Cottenham point to point. Not really ideal for dressage!

Thankfully, they're both fantastic ponies and made us very proud, with only the odd head bob in the wrong place to reach 8th. It wasn't quite the win that we'd hoped for (obviously we thought we were the best!) but it was enormous fun and made us even more proud of our hairy ponies.

To top off the weekend Gully was 10th in the individual, which when you saw the quality of his competition (he was one of 2 hairy ponies, everything else was at least 16.2) was a fantastic result. He decided he'd like to be a racehorse after all (see right)!

It was a great opportunity to watch the quadrille competition. What preparation they had all been through – many congratulations to all the entries – they had been living quadrilles and sewing since about last January. We thought the junior team doing Riverdance on Connemara ponies to be the best – combining real dressage with immaculate choreography and military style precision as it got faster. The judges agreed with us!



All in all we had a brilliant time, and we couldn't have done it without help from Mum (who was groom/cook/chef d'equipe AND driver), Jo and of course, the real superstars Trevor and Gulliver. Rebecca Jackson riding Colin qualified for Aintree as individuals (Novice without points) but sadly were unable to go.

## Area 7 Winter Dressage Team Qualifier

This is being held at Keysoe (College Equestrian Centre) on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November. It will be run on a surface. Teams are made up of four members, two of each team ride Prelim 18, and the other two ride Novice 24. There are also warm up classes. The winning teams qualify for the winter championships at Hartpury on April 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> 2012.

Anyone interested please contact Anna Cook ([a.cook@canddrc.org.uk](mailto:a.cook@canddrc.org.uk)) or Rebecca Seymour ASAP as teams are now being finalised.

## Training at Manor Farm

As many of you will know, Manor Farm Equestrian Centre has been sold and is now closed. The club has therefore stopped all training with Fran Berry until an alternative venue can be found. Hopefully we will start again in early spring.

If anyone has any ideas about venues we could use, please let Rebecca Jarvis know, or contact her with any other training you would like to do, or other trainers. Rebecca will be at the AGM if you would like to talk to her in person.

Don't forget the diary is updated every month on the CDRC website:

[www.CandDRC.org.uk](http://www.CandDRC.org.uk)

## C&DRC AGM

Come and meet your friends, and shape 2012 activities with the Riding Club on Friday November 11<sup>th</sup> at Rampton Village Hall from 7.30pm.

- Short Formal AGM and election of new committee
- Presentation of Awards
- Presentation and Pictures of the Mumby Easter Holiday
- RC Endurance - How our new Team Trained and Competed
- Free Draw for NAF 5 Star Award Goodies!
- Food, Drink & Gossip
- Group Discussions on requirements for Mumby Holiday & Eventing Camp 2012
- C&DRC Merchandise. We are hoping to have some logo-ed club jackets for sale
- Table Top Tack sale

Subscriptions were due on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2011, so please renew ASAP if you have not already done so!

If you would like to join the committee, please do contact a committee member in advance of the AGM so your name can be put forward. The AGM is also a great opportunity to pay your 2011/2012 subscriptions as they became due on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2011.

Tack sale of second hand clothing/equipment. 10% goes to C&DRC. Bring clean and priced to Judi Shaw on the night. Unsold items must be reclaimed by owners.

If you have a trophy from last year, please could you return it on, or in advance of the night, and let Nettie know that you are doing so. Please also bring back any riding club saddlecloths that you have borrowed.

Do bring a plate of food to share. Soft drinks will be available.

Hope to see you there.

## White Horse Cup and Red Baron Trophy

This year a new format is being used whereby points are allocated according to results in all club shows, participation in club teams and achievement at championships. We hope the results will therefore show a true reflection of members supporting club competitions. All these results are on file, so there is no need to send in forms. Results will be announced at the AGM.

## May Show apology

It has been brought to our attention that some showing results from the May Show are missing from the website and from the list published in the June newsletter. One of the showing judges did not return some of the score/result sheets, so we are very sorry that some were missed. The ones we could remember (or were told about) were included in this year's points league.

## Eventers Pre-Season Training camp 24-26<sup>th</sup> Feb 2012 at Waresley Park

*By Kerry Simson*

We have provisionally booked our pre-season training camp at Waresley Park again next Feb but spaces may be limited due to the Brazillian Event Team basing themselves there in the run up to the Olympics. Unfortunately Nick Turner cannot commit to teaching us due to his Olympic responsibilities but we have approached Owen Moore and would welcome suggestions of other trainers from potential campers. Suggestions so far have been Charlotte Bathe, Nat Dixon, Val Gingell and Ruth Hurst (specifically for eventing dressage test practise).

We plan to run 2 groups for those aiming to compete at Novice/Intermediate level and Intro/Pre-Novice level and spaces will be allocated on a first come first served basis with priority given to members who have supported club events and competed on the teams in 2011.

We will stay 2 nights (Fri/Sat) and have 4 training sessions over the weekend including flatwork, gridwork, SJ courses, XC and use of the gallops for hacking and fitness work. There will also be some 'fun' activities: Pilates for horseriders and Karaoke.

There will be a short get-together for potential campers after the AGM on 11th Nov and suggestions/deposit cheques (£100 by 30 Nov) will be welcome.

## Alconbury hunter trial

*By Cindy Wells*

The recent Alconbury hunter trials on October 9<sup>th</sup> run by Huntingdon & District riding club (HDRC) should have been the Area 7 qualifier for the BRC new hunter trial championships. Sadly BRC head office decided that this new series would not have area qualifiers this year. However HDRC decided to offer a team of 4 competition at 75cm and 85cm anyway.

Quite a few C&DRC members entered as individuals, but many of them were at the last minute so were too late to enter teams! Thank you to the team of Louise Horne, Tara Jefferies and Jane Moon who joined me to achieve team 2<sup>nd</sup>, well done all for a great day.

## Clicker training

Clicker training for Horses, run by Amanda Martin of **SMAART Horses**, new dates for 2012. Contact Doris Brenke on [d.brenke@canddrc.org.uk](mailto:d.brenke@canddrc.org.uk) for further details.

**Cambridge & District Riding Club  
Presents**

# **"Johnny Dee" & Disco**

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November  
The Village Hall, Rampton  
7.45 pm till 11.30pm**

**\*\*Radio Cambridgeshire's Johnny Dee\*\***

*an entertainer for over 30 years*

*with his vast repertoire of songs and jokes  
wrapped up in his own inimitable style of cabaret!*

**Ploughman's & Pud  
Supper Included  
Licensed Bar - Real Ale**

**£12 per head**

**For Tickets Call:**

**Sharon: 01353 662098**

**Or Text: 07947118221**

# BHS Cambridgeshire

## Emergency First Aid and Safety Evening

To Be Held At

### Equicentric

Tower Road, Little Downham, Ely CB6 2TD

On Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2011

7.15pm for a 7.30pm start.

**Tickets £5.00 available by sending a SAE to Moats Way Equestrian  
Moats Way, Hemingford Abbots, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE28 4PB**

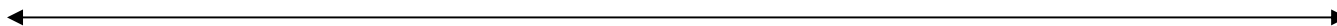


This evening is a 2 hour course in Emergency Life Support covering all the skills required to assist a casualty whilst awaiting the arrival of an ambulance.

Topics to be covered include:

- The Chain of survival
- Dealing with the conscious and unconscious casualty
- CPR and the Recovery Position
- Recognising the symptoms of a heart attack
- How to deal with choking
- Dealing with serious bleeds and wounds

There will also be the opportunity to have your riding hat and body protector checked by trained fitters to ensure they are fitting correctly, to provide maximum protection.



**Please send ticket application and cheque made payable to British Horse Society, Cambridgeshire, with card details on reverse, together with a SAE to: Claire Dodson Moats Way Equestrian, Moats Way, Hemingford Abbots, Cambs. PE28 4PB**

Name	
Address	
Tel number	
Mobile	
No of Tickets	